

# ISAC Meeting – December 2011

## ACTION OR INFORMATION ITEM

**SPONSOR (Name/Email):** \_\_\_\_\_

**TOPIC:** Invasive Aquatic Species Impacting Navigation, Flood Damage Reduction, and Ecosystem Restoration

**SPEAKER (Name/Email):** Al Cofrancesco al.f.cofrancesco@usace.army.mil

**1. DESCRIPTION OF AGENDA ITEM:** The elimination of the Corps of Engineers Funding for Invasive Aquatic Plant Research (Aquatic Plant Control Research Program - APCRP)

### **2. WHY IS THIS ITEM IMPORTANT TO NISC / ISAC? HOW IS IT RELATED TO THE NATIONAL INVASIVE SPECIES MANAGEMENT PLAN?**

The APCRP is the Nation's only federally authorized research program for aquatic plant management, and is nationally recognized as the leader in aquatic plant management research and technology development. Timothy R.E. Keeney, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Oceans and Atmosphere National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce stated in Congressional Testimony, September 27, 2007 before the Subcommittee of Fisheries, Wildlife and Oceans Committee on Natural Resources U.S. House of Representatives that "The Army Corps of Engineers has done an outstanding job of developing control methodologies for specific weed species through their Engineer Research and Development Center. It should be noted, however, that their success was the result of a decades-long commitment involving significant financial resources."

**3. PREVIOUS ACTIONS TAKEN BY NISC / ISAC ON THIS ITEM:** The NISC had discussed the benefits of this research activity

**4. ACTION REQUESTED OF NISC / ISAC:** That the NISC/ISAC make the current Administration (Assistant Secretary of the Army for Civil Works- ASA-CW) aware of the potential problems that can arise with the termination of funding for the APCRP.

**5. ALTERNATIVES:** Do nothing and the Corps will stop funding invasive aquatic plant research!

**6. ATTACHMENTS:** See attachments provided: